

Application No: 10/519,852
Amendment C
Reply to Office Action Dated 02/28/2007

Attorney Docket No: 3883.022

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the previous drawing sheet including Fig. 9 with the replacement sheet including Figs. 9A and 9B. Please also replace the previous drawing sheets including Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 respectively with the replacement sheets including Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 respectively. In Figs. 10 and 11, a legend -Prior Art- has been added.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 6-7 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 3-5 have been cancelled.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

More specifically, the Examiner has stated that the bulge sections in each of the five toe sections of claim 7 must be shown or the features(s) cancelled from the claim(s).

A new Fig. 9B has been added to show the above feature. The specification has been amended accordingly.

The Examiner has also stated that Figs. 10 and 11 should be designated by a legend such as - Prior Art - because only that which is old is illustrated.

Figs. 10 and 11 have been amended to add a legend - Prior Art -.

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

More specifically, the Examiner has stated that "in a state before the toes are inserted, said bulge section, together with said toe section, instep section and sole section, forms a T-shape, and in a state after the toes have been inserted, a bottom surface of said bulge section has an arc shape" in claim 1 is not supported in the specification.

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Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the bulge section is formed such that it has an arc shape that protrudes downward. The support is clearly found in paragraph [0036] of the published specification of the instant application.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC 112

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

As discussed above, the language of claim 1 has been amended to recite that the bulge section is formed such that it has an arc shape that protrudes downward. The support is clearly found in original claim 3 as well as paragraph [0036] of the published specification of the instant application.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC 102

Claims 1-3 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Craighead (US 1,308,483).

In Craighead the fullness 3 is formed in the instep section of the sock, whereas in the present invention the bulge (11, 12) is formed in the sole section of the sock and protrudes downward.

The Examiner has stated that Craighead teaches the bulge section is formed such that it has an arc shape that protrudes downward (figure 2). However, it is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of Craighead that the fullness 3 is formed in the instep section of the sock and thus protrudes upward, especially the bulge section is formed on a root of a toe.

Claim 1 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over Craighead and since claims 2 and 6-7 are dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well. Claim 3 has been cancelled.

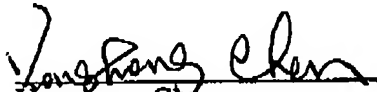
Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully

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requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,


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